

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Department of Natural Resources
Room 1050
January 14, 2003

Minutes

Member Present:

HARTY, Kimm - UGS
KAPPE, Karl - DFFSL
WILCOX, Richard - SITLA
SCHLOTTHAUER, Bill - DWRi
SOWARDS, Glade - Utah Energy Office
CANNING, Michael - DWR
MORTENSEN, Duane - DEQ/DERR
JUSINO, Cesar - USDA - NRCS
KEENE, Mike - State Science Advisor
PARKIN, Steven - DEQ - Air Quality
PITKIN, Jay - DEQ - Water Quality
GEORGESON, Michael - DEQ - Water Quality
BERNARDS, Francis - DEQ - Air Quality
HARJA, John - GOPB/DNR

Others Present:

WRIGHT, Carolyn - GOPB/DNR
LANDURETH, Brenda - DNR/ADMIN

I. Approval of Minutes

Bill Schlotthauer called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.
Glade Sowards made a motion to approve the December 10, 2002 minutes. Cesar Jusino seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Discussion Items

John Harja opened the discussion and nominations for elections for the Resource Development Coordinating Committee (RDCC) chair and vice-chair (two-year term). Kimm Harty nominated Glade Sowards for chair. John Harja tabled elections until April to enable Glade Sowards and any other interested members to discuss and obtain approval from their supervisors. Bill Schlotthauer will continue serving as chair for three months.

Kimm Harty requested clarification on when state agencies should comment directly to the project proponent agency and when comments are coordinated. John Harja and Carolyn Wright stated that short-turn around projects that are usually stream alterations and environmental assessments (15-days). Scoping is generally open to direct comment except for large items and proposals that require coordination. If it might have an impact on the environment, is considered a major item it will appear on the agenda as requiring coordination and/or Carolyn Wright will send out an email message indicating items that require coordination. If a management project has a comment deadline for Governor's Office of Planning and Budget it requires coordination.

III. Report from Agencies on Any Anticipated Projects

Karl Kappe, Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands (DFFSL) announced that the division has received oil and gas nominations and are on the agenda. A leasing issue needs to be resolved with the tribe for some segments of the Green River. This will require further coordination. The federal government has National Fire Plan funding for fuel load reduction projects. DFFSL has a fuel load reduction project map available upon request.

John Harja announced that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) resource management plans for Vernal, Price, Richfield, Moab and Monticello deadlines are moving forward and the deadlines have been extended to September 2004. The governor will sign the cooperating agency agreement between the state and the BLM today making the state an official cooperating entity.

Duschemne cooperating agency and Uintah is not a cooperating agency in the Vernal area. Alternatives are currently being discussed. Wilderness and range management will be important issues.

Vernal and Atlas Tailings Site Environmental Impact Statement has been started. Bill Sinclair, Radiation Control in Grand Junction is the lead. The state of Utah is a cooperating agency for this project.

Bill Schlotthauer announced that the Division of Water Rights has been asked by cities in northern Utah County to broker a study on groundwater optimization. It will cover the area between Pleasant Grove to Saratoga Springs and it may also include Provo, Orem, Eagle Mountain and Vineyard. The drought has been a significant factor understanding the limitation of spring sources. The division will coordinate with the conservancy district, U.S. Geological Survey and several towns that are involved in this issue. The pre-project proposal will be available for your review upon request.

The Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Drinking Water is working on a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for Herriman and Panquitch. The Panguitch EA has a stray band of prairie dogs. Steven Parkin will be replacing Francis Bernards and will be interested in fire, road building and trenching events.

IV. Review of Proposed Items as Listed on the Project Management Library

The scoping for the Utah Department of Transportation regarding US 6 (Project Management System #2424) is closed, however comments will still be accepted.

III. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 a.m. The next meeting will be held on February 11, 2003, at 9:00 a.m., at the Department of Natural Resources, in room 1040.

